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**TEACHERS GO
THAT EXTRA
MILE**



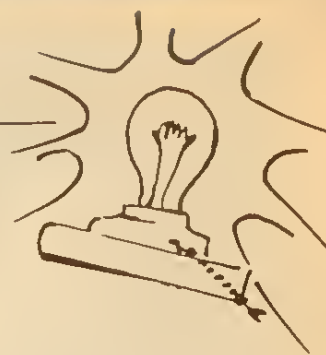
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**ROCKETS FIRE
UP WHITEFISH
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**BRIGHT
IDEAS!**



SEPTEMBER 1985

VOLUME 29, NO. 1

Montana Schools

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OFFICE OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
Ed Argenbright, Superintendent

TEACHER EDUCATION

What we've done to improve the way we train teachers

The second wave of the "excellence in education" movement of the past few years has focused on the way we educate and certify teachers. Without teacher education reforms that enforce higher standards on the job, the experts say, our schools will not improve.

Several national trends have promoted an analysis of teacher education:

—More people are going to college, but fewer are studying to be teachers. The number of new teacher graduates in the past 10 years has declined by 53 percent. While the drop is partly attributable to the declining enrollments of the past decades, the supply and demand picture is changing.

—School enrollment will increase in the late 1980s and 1990s as the "baby boomlet" enters the school system. There will be a need to avert a lowering of teaching standards that in the past has accompanied teacher shortages during enrollment increases.

—Women, traditionally 70 percent of the teaching force, are looking to other careers. Once the highest profession they could enter, teaching is now one of many possibilities. Both men and women increasingly seek professions whose status, income and gains are seen as greater than those of teaching.

Researchers have found that teacher education in the U.S. is highly diverse, with 1,287 colleges and universities preparing teachers. More education courses, more credit hours and more clinical experience such as student teaching are required now than a decade ago.

Certification standards and procedures also vary widely from state to state. Even within a state, the numbers, types and requirements for certificates also vary. Increasingly common, however, is the use of a test as some part of certification and/or teacher education. By 1984, 10 states required a basic skills test of some kind, 30 planned to have one by 1987, and six are considering other variations of teacher testing. Seven states now require an on-the-job, post-college internship before a person is fully certified to teach; 18 states plan to introduce an internship requirement in the near future.

Central to the discussion of teaching reform is the promotion of teaching as a "true profession," the shared responsibility of teacher educators, school administrators and teachers. Attracting talented young people to teaching, merit pay plans, new salary structures, career ladders, performance evaluation, a national teaching proficiency exam—all have been explored and, in some cases, implemented as means to raise teaching standards. To

review these and other options, the Carnegie Forum on Education and the Economy has appointed a 14-member panel to develop a "blueprint to make teaching a true profession." The national panel, headed by IBM's chief scientist, Lewis Branscomb, will make its recommendations next year.

Montana Reform

Montana is now among the states requiring a basic skills precertification test, based on the recent adoption of a rule by the

State Board of Public Education. (The rule is effective July 1, 1986.) However, teacher education reform in Montana has been far more comprehensive.

The Board of Public Education has the responsibility of setting standards for teacher education programs leading to certification in the state's colleges and universities. By 1979, with input gathered cooperatively from the Office of Public Instruction (OPI), the Commissioner of Higher Education, local schools, *continued next page.*

"In the great debate about public education, teachers are often blamed for what is wrong. And we hear much talk these days about recruiting better teachers. But to focus on future teachers misses an essential point. Whatever is wrong with American public schools cannot be fixed without the help of those teachers already in the nation's classrooms. Most of them will be there for years to come. And we must view today's teachers as part of the solution, not the problem."—Ernest L. Boyer, President, Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching



PLEASE RETURN



It appears that many weighty decisions concerning education in the state of Montana will be considered during the coming school year.

The lawsuit brought by 62 school districts against the State of Montana, the Board of Public Education and the Superintendent of Public Instruction is proceeding rapidly through the court system. The district judge has set a trial date of May 19, 1986. If there is an appeal, the matter could be before the Montana Supreme Court by summer 1986. Several additional parties have joined the lawsuit, including nine counties who favor the present system and oppose the 62 school districts' position.

The final court order will establish the financial structure of public school financing for the next two decades. Although no decision has been made on the merits of the case, I urge everyone concerned with education to stay current on the status of the case.

Another contemporary issue concerns equity and schools. In 1986 the federal judge in the Ridgeway case will decide whether Montana must alter its boys and girls basketball seasons. Also, the Montana Human Rights Commission recently expressed its desire to formulate rules governing school districts' equity policies. I believe that all school districts should communicate with the Human Rights Commission as to what rules are being considered and the schedule of public hearings on these rules. I am fearful that proposed rules may create additional confusion on issues of equity in light of the Ridgeway case, the 42-page settlement agreement, and extensive Title IX federal regulations. It is imperative that you follow this issue closely because it will have policy and economic ramifications for districts.

In another area affecting school districts, the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences is currently proposing to amend its rules on health, safety and construction concerning all Montana schools. The Department is moving forward quite rapidly, and proposed rules require the attention of all educators and county officials. The Montana School Boards Association and the School Administrators of Montana have monitored these developments with us, and we will make available to county superintendents a copy of proposed rule changes. Again, this action will have ramifications on many schools with relation to remodeling, construction, and janitorial services.

These are only three areas of critical concern to Montana educators as other issues and agencies continue to affect the education of Montana students. As the state's education agency, we will monitor each issue closely and will include updates as we receive them.

Meanwhile, you begin the really important task: that of educating Montana youngsters. Have a super year!

—Ed Argenbright
State Superintendent
of Public Instruction

teachers in the field and teacher education faculty, the board adopted standards and procedures for verifying them.

The first reviews of teacher education programs were made in the fall of 1979 by a team of trained educators from OPI, elementary and secondary schools and personnel from other colleges. Although visits were not required (they will be as of this year), all eight of Montana's teacher training institutions requested them, an indication of their support of the process.

To date all of Montana's teacher preparation programs have been reviewed and approved. The evaluations are made every five years and, because the reviewing teams seek to improve the system based on the data they gather on site, the standards are revised every five years.*

The system has had several benefits. Within a college, there is greater cooperation between teacher education departments and faculty from other disciplines, with the latter becoming more aware of their role in preparing teachers. Educators in the field have a way to "feed back" to colleges what works in the classroom and what doesn't, providing constructive avenues of communication. Local schools and program graduates are involved, since many teachers several years into the profession can offer invaluable insight.

Montana's teacher preparation institutions have made their own reforms as well. Teacher education programs are more com-

prehensive, have higher standards for entry and exit and build greater confidence in the profession. (See teacher education program summaries below.)

Professional Development

The other side of teaching reform is professional development. Well-trained, competent teachers emerging from topnotch programs should have opportunities to extend their capabilities, refine their methods and expand their knowledge base.

Several programs are addressing professional development. Beginning with school year 1986-87, the Board of Public Education will require school districts to give teachers three days for staff development activities. The Exemplary Education Program, part of the Montana Educational Challenge Project, uses peer nominations to identify exemplary educators for state education leadership service. Regional inservice leadership programs, such as the Montana Writers Project and the Excellence for Montana Mathematics Education project, use the collegial approach by training selected teachers to provide inservice in their region. OPI staff continue to offer technical assistance, resources and field consultation to Montana educators.

Teacher education standards in the state have been upgraded, with the participation of all sectors of the education community. The emphasis has been on credible, comprehensive standards that stress skills and concepts rather than credits. In addition, the state continues to support ongoing professional development opportunities for teachers in the field. Both efforts will contribute significantly to promoting the teaching profession and educational excellence.

*Standards are found in the *Procedure Manual for Montana Teacher Education Program Standards*, published by OPI.

Who Trains Montana Teachers and What They Require

These summaries describe recent developments in Montana's approved teacher education programs. However, only the specific college catalog or department can give detailed descriptions of program requirements. Grade point averages (GPAs) noted are minimums.

Carroll College—Applications judged on tested competence in language and mathematics skills; grade of C or above in Co101; cumulative 2.0 GPA; faculty interview, recommendations.

College of Great Falls—Applications screened by Committee on Teacher Education, with further screening for student teaching; overall 2.0 GPA in professional courses, field of concentration. Other general requirements regarding communication, social, professional skills.

Eastern Montana College—Entry: Completion of 72 qtr. credits (general education and specific courses) with 2.5 GPA; advisor interviews; admission approved by a Teacher Education Committee.

Montana State University—Entry: Cumulative 2.3 GPA in all university courses; 12 qtr. credits in basic skills core with 2.5 GPA, no grade lower than C. Program: Cumulative 2.5 GPA in both major and minor academic areas and professional education block prior to student teaching. New requirements effective July 1, 1986.

Northern Montana College—Entry: Completion of introductory education course. Provisional status met with completion of balance of coursework in general education, major and minor with 2.2 GPA. Final admission with maintenance of 2.2 GPA, C or better in major, minor, professional education courses.

Rocky Mountain College—Entry: Overall 2.0 GPA; completion of general psychology or human development course; committee review. *Student Teaching*: Committee review, recommendation by major department; 2.25 GPA in major and professional education courses, 2.0 overall. *Certification*: Completion of student teaching; degree requirements with 2.25 GPA.

University of Montana—Entry: Junior year status; completion of psychology course; cumulative 2.0 GPA; writing sample; faculty interview. *Plans*: School of Education expects to change requirements when UM general education core has been in effect 2 years. Then, teacher education admission will require completion of that program. Written test of general knowledge in planning stage. Considering changing current 2.3 GPA requirement for student teaching to 2.5.

Western Montana College—Entry: Competence in basic communication skills; selective tests, interviews may be required; 2.0 GPA overall. *Student Teaching*: Cumulative 2.2 GPA, 2.2 in major and minor preparation fields; completion of methods courses.

MONTANA SCHOOLS

Montana Schools is published quarterly (September, December, February, May) by the Office of Public Instruction, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620. It is distributed to public schools and members of boards, associations, organizations and individuals interested in education in Montana.

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GOING THAT EXTRA MILE

5 Teachers Who Saw a Challenge



Paul Dorrance



Myra Miller

Why would a teacher wish to orbit the earth on a four-day NASA space shuttle flight?

Sixty-four Montana teachers expressed the desire to join such mission by applying to be NASA's "Teacher in Space" in 1986. Five made the semi-finals, and two went to Washington, D.C. this summer to join other states' candidates for workshops and further screening.

Patricia Johnson, physics-geoscience teacher at Capital High in Helena, was one of Montana's two Teacher in Space candidates. While in college she took an airplane ride "on a whim," then borrowed \$50 from her sister for flying lessons. She has been flying ever since. A pilot for 22 years and a teacher for 21 years, Johnson also has been a delegate to five National Congresses on Aerospace Education. Why go into space? "It's a natural extension of flying," she said, "and I have followed the space program since it began."

Paul Dorrance, Montana's other candidate, had no doubts about a mission on a NASA flight. "I would teach my kids from space," he said. Using computers, "I could transmit files, correct tests and essentially do what I normally do—teach." Dorrance, an electronics-physics teacher at Helena High School, applied to the program because he felt, "Anyone can strive to attain a dream. Teachers have dreams, too."

Judith Martin, who teaches chemistry and math at Sentinel High School in Missoula, involved her students in the challenge to become a shuttle passenger. "They were my training crew, my coaches," she said. "They asked me questions as if they were the screening committee, they critiqued my presentations, and they made me take a hard look at my personal and professional goals. It helped them realize how important it is to look at their own goals." Martin was Montana's alternate space flight candidate.

Myra Miller, a semi-finalist who teaches third grade at Bozeman's Longfellow School, at first saw the chance to fly in space as "impossible," but realized that much of the success of a challenge "comes from the trying." "If you don't try to achieve a goal," she said, "it won't be there for you."

Jo Ann Eisenzimer, another semi-finalist, has supplemented her 21-year teaching career with an active interest in aeronautics education. She has directed adult and youth summer aerospace workshops since 1980 and has received several awards in her field. "I've worked with NASA before, and I've learned the importance of aerospace education," she said. "Riding on the space shuttle would be the experience of a lifetime. Experience is the best teacher." Eisenzimer teaches 4th grade at Loy Elementary in Great Falls.

Dorrance and Johnson were not chosen for the NASA space flight. But there is little doubt that all five of these Montana teachers went that extra mile to challenge themselves as professionals and individuals, and that their students will ultimately benefit.



Patricia Johnson



Jo Ann Eisenzimer



Judith Martin

ARE YOU PREPARED TO HANDLE A SCHOOL BUS ACCIDENT?

Accidents involving school buses are unthinkable. Yet schools spend a great deal of time with pupil transportation and traffic safety experts thinking about making the unthinkable impossible.

Nationally, agencies such as the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration provide research and recommendations for school bus safety. Federal officials and the State Board of Public Education set minimum standards for school buses in the state, and the Montana Highway Patrol conducts routine inspections of all school buses to ensure that these standards are met. Locally, drivers and vehicles undergo safety measures to protect the lives of over 63,000 Montana students who ride school buses each day.

But not so long ago the unthinkable happened. Nine people were killed in January 1984 when a school bus carrying the Whitefish High School wrestling team and a jackknifed tanker truck collided on Marias Pass on the southern border of Glacier National Park. Devastating but rare, the accident was Montana's worst involving a school bus. It was the first time ever that a child was killed inside a school bus.

In the fall of 1984, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued its report on the Whitefish accident, the product of a thorough investigation of the drivers, vehicles, road conditions and other factors in the incident. Local, state, school and other officials cooperated in the extensive effort to make recommendations that could help prevent future accidents.

Terry Brown, Office of Public Instruction pupil transportation safety specialist, reports that the analysis shows that bus and driver were doing everything right under the conditions. "NTSB indicated that the three most important factors in safety situations—the school bus driver, the vehicle and their performance

on given road conditions—were all well within the realm of safety," he said. "It was a terrible and tragic encounter."

Dale Duff of Rocky Mountain Transportation, Inc., local school bus contractor for Whitefish school district, offers others constructive advice on handling school bus accidents, should the unthinkable occur. He does so to help others learn from the tragedy in his own community.

If an accident involving a school bus occurs, Duff recommends the following steps:

☐ *Your first responsibility is to your passengers.* Determine if there are any injuries and, if so, see to it that they get immediate first aid attention. See that others are not in jeopardy, and call an ambulance if necessary.

☐ *Protect the scene of the accident.* Place your reflectors and do not move the vehicles until a law officer arrives.

☐ *Call the law enforcement authorities, preferably through your office.* If the accident is serious, your insurance company and company attorney should be notified immediately.

☐ *Get the names of vehicle owners and drivers involved, license numbers and addresses.*

☐ *Express no opinion as to who was at fault.*

☐ *Give no information except as required by authorities.*

☐ *Sign no statement without counsel of your insurance representative or attorney.*

☐ *Your best interest will be served if you are courteous and engage in no controversy at the accident scene.*

The Office of Public Instruction agrees that constructive guidance will help school districts and school bus contractors avert potential accidents and handle them effectively if they do occur. Looking to the future and using the Whitefish incident in a positive way will help further improve school bus safety.

**AMERICA'S
SAFE SCHOOLS WEEK
OCTOBER 20-26, 1985**



**AMERICA'S YEAR OF
SCHOOL SAFETY
1985-1986**

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STATUE OF LIBERTY ACTIVITIES MARK CENTENNIAL COUNTDOWN

1986 is the hundredth anniversary of the Statue of Liberty, an American landmark of the hopes and dreams of millions of immigrants and to this day an enduring symbol of freedom and patriotism.

Next year will also mark the culmination of a \$358 million project to renovate the statue and nearby Ellis Island National Monument, where those immigrants took their first steps on American soil in search of the promise of freedom.

Although they live hundreds of miles from the statue's home in New York Harbor, Montana schoolchildren have come to know Lady Liberty well in the past three years. In 1982 they helped kick off the National Student Campaign in their state, a special segment of the statue fund raising effort which gives every student in the country an opportunity to participate in the historic restoration of the statue and to learn more about our extraordinary history and rich ethnic heritage and traditions.

Through every kind of activity, from bake sales to penny drives, Montana students have collected funds for the Statue of Liberty, much as the children of the U.S. and France did in order to assemble the statue over a century ago. When school ended last May, they had raised nearly \$20,000.

As the campaign enters its fourth and final year, fund raising will continue across the state. To start your school year, we've assembled a page of Statue of Liberty news, exciting announcements and useful resources so that your class can join the countdown to the Statue of Liberty centennial.

Liberty Flag Flies Over Capitol

Most Montana youngsters were out of school, with summer vacation on their minds. They may not have realized that on June 14, a special tribute to them was raised on the flagpole in front of the State Capitol in Helena.

The Statue of Liberty-Ellis Island Centennial Commission, the organization behind the statue fund raising and centennial activities, chaired by Chrysler chief executive Lee Iacocca, sent Montana a red, white and blue Statue of Liberty flag to acknowledge the state's contributions to the renovation project. Most of those contributions have come from students in schools across the state.

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Ed Argenbright presented the flag to Lieutenant Governor George Turman on the Capitol steps on June 14. Lt. Governor Turman in turn gave Superintendent Argenbright a Montana flag to be sent to Liberty Island in New York for the statue centennial celebration.

"Move to Freedom" Van to Tour Montana

A special treat in Statue of Liberty activities this year will be the arrival of the Liberty Van, or "Move to Freedom" traveling exhibit, a grass roots effort to raise funds for the restoration of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island National Monument.

Artwork, sculpture, historical photographs and audiovisual presentations on the statue and Ellis Island will be on tour of the U.S. inside two 48 foot Fruehauf vans powered by Kenworth K-100E tractors. Allied Van Lines, "the world's largest mover of families," is sponsoring the tour, which will cover nearly 200 cities across the U.S.

"The Move to Freedom exhibit allows Americans everywhere the opportunity to participate in an historic effort," said Sidney Epstein, President of the Chicago-based Allied Van Lines.

The two vans will travel the 50 states separately, leaving from Seattle and Washington, D.C., respectively. They will conclude their tours in New York City in October 1986 during the centennial celebration of the statue.

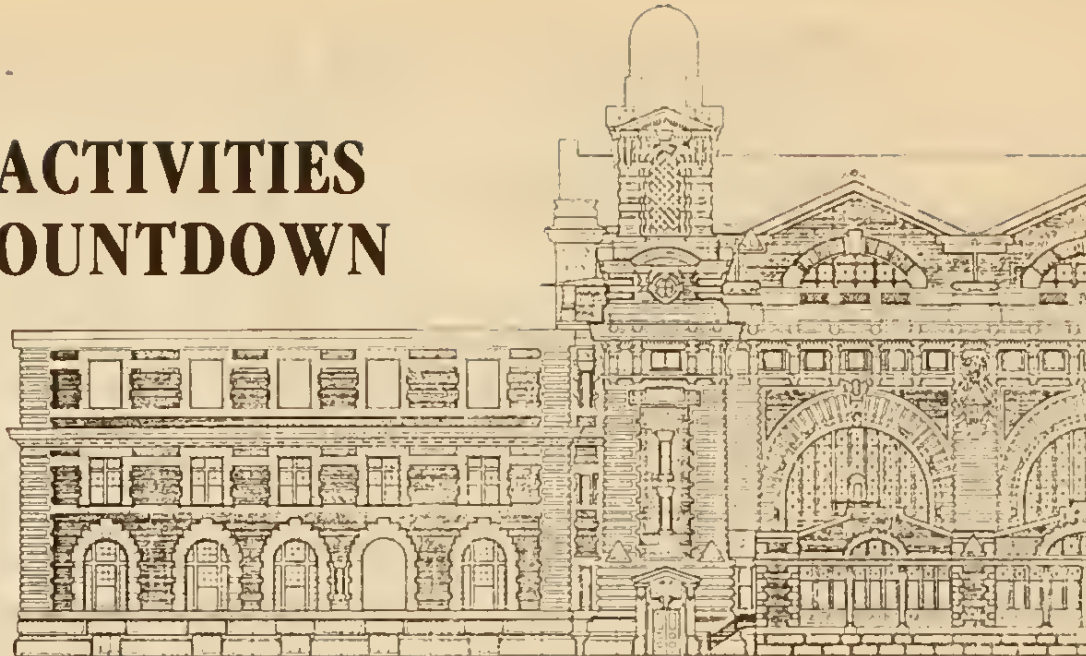
One of the Move to Freedom vans will tour several Montana cities in September. The tour dates and sites are:

Sept. 6-8—Billings (Sept. 6, Courthouse Park, 11-6; Sept. 7-8, Rimrock Mall, mall hours).

Sept. 11-12—Helena (Capital Hill Mall, 12-7)

Sept. 18-20—Missoula (Southgate Mall, 1-8)

For more information about the van, contact the Office of Public Instruction, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620.



Drawing of Great Hall at Ellis Island

Honor Roll

Add these names to the list of Montana schools whose students have raised funds for the Save Our Statue campaign:

Kila School
St. Ignatius Elementary
Muldown School, Whitefish
Bigfork Elementary
S.Y. School, Miles City
Miles Avenue School, Billings
Garfield School, Lewistown

Columbus Elementary invited other Montana schools to chip into the campaign by raising Save Our Statue funds—penny by penny! (See *Montana Schools*, May 1985.) With the help of the following penny-collecting schools, the Columbus project netted a total of \$7,299.04 (Quick, how many pennies is that?)

Independent School, Billings
Helena Flats, Kalispell
Huntley Project, Worden
Roberts Elementary
Belgrade Elementary
Cornelius Hedges, Kalispell
Cardwell Elementary
Chester Elementary
Washington Elementary, Anaconda
Woodman Elementary, Lolo
Carter Elementary
Lewis and Clark, Missoula
Hellgate Elementary, Missoula
Arlee Elementary
Malta Elementary
Lambert Elementary
Roundup Elementary
Forsyth Elementary
White Sulphur Springs Elementary
Dillon Elementary
Fromberg Elementary

Red Lodge Elementary
Harlowton Elementary
Emma Dickinson, Missoula
Hobson Elementary
South School, Laurel
Hardin Elementary
Zurich Elementary
Victor Elementary
Webster-Garfield, Butte
Lodge Grass Elementary
Sheridan Elementary
Whitehall Elementary
Divide School
Fort Peck Elementary
West Yellowstone Elementary
Joliet Elementary
Union Elementary, Lindsay
Custer Elementary
Edgerton School, Kalispell
Columbus Elementary



State Superintendent of Public Instruction Ed Argenbright (left) presents the Liberty Centennial flag to Lt. Governor George Turman.



The Allied Van Lines "Move to Freedom" exhibit, featuring the history and restoration needs of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, will tour Montana in September.

INFORMATION RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS

State government agencies in Helena have several information centers that can be of help to teachers and administrators all over the state. If you cannot find what you need at your local or school libraries, you may find the following resources extremely useful this school year. (All addresses are Helena, MT 59620).

OPI Specialists/OPI Resource Center (Office of Public Instruction, State Capitol, 1-800-332-3402)—The Office of Public Instruction has *staff specialists* in most curricular areas, pupil transportation, food service, school finance, library media, adult basic education, special education, educational equity, vocational education, federal programs and many more areas of importance to education. These specialists use the *OPI Resource Center*, which houses both printed and electronic materials about all aspects of education.

The Resource Center also has *Montana Instructional Information for Educators*, or *MINE*, which taps into resources such as journal articles, materials from the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC), products developed by regional education laboratories, computerized data banks, etc. Searches for information and copies of writ-

ten materials are available for a small fee on a MINE subscription basis or by non-subscription, individual request.

Bulletin Board, operated by OPI's Information Resources Division, is a telecommunications network that can be accessed by schools with a computer and modem. Bulletin Board offers an electronic mail system, computer file transfers and the sharing of public domain software. The access number is 444-3841, but call the regular OPI office number for an explanation of the system.

OPI Audiovisual Library (Office of Public Instruction, State Capitol, 1-800-332-3402)—This resource center has over 7,000 films, videotapes and videocassettes on a wide variety of curricular and professional development subjects. Schools may rent the films for an affordable fee.

Montana State Library (Justice-State Bldg., 1515 E. 6th Ave., 444-3115)—A leader in library development and services, the State Library not only houses a rich collection of resources, it also holds training and educational workshops for the library community in Montana. It operates Moncat, a shared computer data base which contains records of materials owned by Montana

libraries, developed through the Washington Library Network, a multi-state computer library system. Moncat's pilot program, completed last year, showed the successful use of a shared catalog by 19 public libraries of all types and sizes for interlibrary loan services and other library operations.

The State Library reaches libraries through a variety of services: reference, distribution of state government publications, publication and distribution of the Montana Library Directory and a bimonthly newsletter; consultant activities; coordination of federal activities; administration and distribution of coal severance tax funds to public library federations; coordination of statewide library planning activities and training workshops for librarians; and various technical services.

The library also has special services for blind and physically handicapped users, employees of state government and residents of Montana institutions.

State Law Library (Justice-State Bldg., 215 N. Sanders, 444-3660)—This library houses an extensive collection of legal documents and research materials, particularly those related to Montana law.

Montana Historical Society Library (225 N. Roberts, 444-2681)—Archival and research material on all aspects of local and state history.

Social and Rehabilitative Services (SRS) Training and Resource Information Center (111 Sanders, 444-5647)—SRS's Training and Resource Information Center (TRIC) has extensive training materials for those working with the developmentally disabled, as well as resources that might be useful in special education.

Department of Commerce Census and Information Center (1424 9th Ave., 444-2896)—This exceptionally useful center has everything you would ever want to know about Montana demographics and census figures—information especially helpful when writing grants or calculating mill levies.

Other state agencies with resource centers are the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences, the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation and the Legislative Council.

Discover the "Age of Information" at your state government libraries!

NEWS BRIEFS

STEVENSVILLE CHAPTER 1 PROGRAM RECOGNIZED

The Stevensville, Montana ECIA Chapter 1 program, a federal program for educationally disadvantaged students, was one of 117 Chapter 1 programs in the nation to receive national recognition in the U.S. Secretary of Education's Initiative to Improve the Quality of Chapter 1 Projects. Kathy Dufresne, Chapter 1 project director for Stevensville, received the award at a special ceremony in New Orleans last May.

Projects nominated for the award were examined for their overall quality and achievement. Noteworthy aspects of the Stevensville program are its cost-efficient computer-assisted instruction, which parallels the district's reading curriculum, and a successful computer literacy program for all Chapter 1 students.

Information about the Stevensville program will be included in a *Sourcebook on Effective Chapter 1 Programs*, and a presentation from the project will be featured at the state Chapter 1 workshop at Big Sky on September 26-27 and at a regional Chapter 1 workshop tentatively scheduled for this fall.

Other Montana Chapter 1 projects that received certificates of commendation in the award program were the Billings Elementary Chapter 1 program, the Sophomore Core Program at Billings Senior High and Chapter 1 programs at Havre and Monforton.

FORMER WMC DEAN HEADS TEACHER TESTING STUDY

The Office of Public Instruction has appointed Dr. Alan Zetler, former Dean of Education at Western Montana College in Dillon, to head a study of the testing system to be used for teachers seeking initial certification in Montana.

The Board of Public Education recently passed a requirement that all teachers demonstrate competence in basic skills before they are initially certified to teach in Montana public schools. The National Teachers Exam, the test to be used to measure basic skills, will be validated under Zetler's guidance before the precertification rule goes into effect next year.

Zetler will select a committee to help him review the national test for fairness and appropriateness to the Montana education

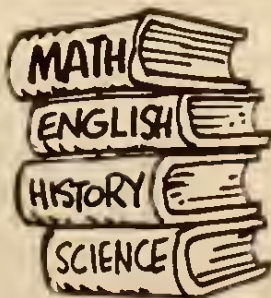
system. A key recommendation from the group will be the passing score for teachers seeking a Montana certificate.

The study will be completed by January 1986 for review by the Board of Public Education. The board will then adopt standards to be used to effect the test requirement by July 1986.

VO-ED GRANT APPLICATION DEADLINES

By November 1, superintendents and interested teachers will receive applications for federal funds for proposed vocational education projects to begin July 1, 1986. Completed applications must be received by the Office of Public Instruction by January 6, 1986.

For information, contact Bob Ruthemeyer at OPI (1-800-332-3402).



FULBRIGHT TEACHER EXCHANGE PROGRAM

The Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program, sponsored by the U.S. Information Agency, is planning its 1986-87 exchange year and will be accepting applications from U.S. teachers.

The program involves a one-to-one exchange for elementary, secondary and postsecondary teachers with teachers in Canada, Britain, France, Germany, Denmark, Switzerland and Italy. Eligibility requirements and available positions vary by country.

Applications must be submitted by October 15, 1985. You may request application forms and information from: Fulbright Teacher Exchange, E/ASX, U.S. Information Agency, 301 4th St. NW, Washington, DC 20547. A limited number of applications are available from Ed Eschler, Social Studies Specialist at OPI (1-800-332-3402).

"MATHLETE" FINALISTS

Four Montana students competed in the national Mathcounts competition finals in Washington, D.C., last May. The Mathletes were Anthony Roberts, Helena Middle School; Gerald Sheetz, Bridger Elementary; Cary Kinross-Wright, Big Timber Grade School; and Rod Andreason, Lolo School.

Mathcounts is a nationwide competition and coaching program for 7th and 8th graders designed to encourage mathematics skills through extracurricular learning.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR MONTANA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Nominations are being sought for Montana's outstanding educator for school year 1985-86. Any individual or group may nominate a teacher (K-12) in an accredited Montana school.

Teaching excellence, participation in professional and community activities and respect for students, parents and colleagues are among the primary considerations in making a nomination. The selected teacher will represent Montana in the National Teacher of the Year program.

Nominations must be submitted to the Teacher of the Year Selection Committee by September 30. For information about application materials, contact Ed Eschler, Office of Public Instruction, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620.

TOOLE'S MONTANA ON VIDEOTAPE

K. Ross Toole's Montana, a history telecourse based on the late historian's University of Montana lectures, will be available through the Office of Public Instruction's Audiovisual Library this fall.

The 20-part series is illustrated with archival photos, maps and historical documents. A study guide will accompany the series later this year. Dr. Toole's unique perspective makes this an entertaining and informative series.

The series was produced by Montanans for Quality Television (MQTV). For information, call the OPI Audiovisual Library (1-800-332-3402).

WHITEFISH AEROSPACE CLASS LAUNCHES

The countdown last spring was not at Cape Kennedy with a play-by-play from Houston's Mission Control, but on an unlikely stretch of sage-covered prairie about 25 miles south of Malta, Montana, fondly known as the "Big Sag." Standing by for the blast off and tracking of over 30 rockets was not NASA, but 16 students from northwestern Montana's Whitefish High School and their supervisors.

The rocket launches on May 17 and 18 were part of a unique aerospace education program that draws its resources and support from Whitefish school administrators, teachers, community people and national aerospace organizations. The program has been directed by Whitefish school superintendent Dr. LeRoy Key, who started a similar program eight years ago while working in an Oregon school district. Along with the Whitefish faculty and parents, key partners in the endeavor are local personnel from the Montana Civil Air Patrol.

Whitefish High School sophomores, juniors or seniors may enroll in this sophisticated course. Along with general aerospace studies, they order and assemble rocket materials, mix chemicals and undergo rigorous safety measures. Their handiwork ranges from simple models to machine tooled systems capable of reaching heights of 30,000 feet.

One of the largest rockets launched at the Big Sag this year was a BR-3, modified from a Navy surplus air-to-ground missile casing. It was 5 inches in diameter, about 12 feet tall, weighed nearly 200 pounds and carried communication instruments. Although rockets fired in the past have carried mice, problems forced the students to abandon the use of live cargo.

The Big Sag launch was the first in Montana. In the past, the class traveled to Smoke Creek Range, a military test range in the Nevada desert, to fire their rockets. This year they obtained permission to use a site on public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Key and his students had to file an environmental impact statement on their project in order to receive the BLM's approval. A permit was also secured from the Federal Aviation Administration to ensure that rockets reaching higher altitudes did not endanger commercial, military or local air traffic.

Chuck Piper, a propulsion scientist and head of the Rocket Research Institute Inc. (RRI) of Glendale, California, oversaw the Malta launches. RRI is a private, nonprofit organization whose professional consultants voluntarily guide safe and effective aerospace programs for young people. Piper certified each of the students' rockets to see that they met rigid specifications.

A special guest at the Big Sag was George James of Washington, D.C., who founded RRI in 1949. James came to Montana with cargo for one of the Whitefish rockets—"rocket mail," a packet of letters hand-cancelled with a stamp saying "Flown at Big Sag, Montana." After its recovery from the rocket, one of the letters was presented to the Smithsonian Institute in Washington.

Rocket experimentation is only half of this ambitious program. In the other part of the class, students attend ground school for a private pilot's license. The course takes them through the Federal Aviation Administration's written exam and, from there, students may choose to complete the license requirements on their own.

The class draws on the assistance of the Glacier Firebird Squadron of the Montana Civil Air Patrol. "The entire program would be impossible without them," said Jerry Mulhauser, who teaches math at Central Junior High School in Whitefish, participates in that school's Young Astronaut program and assists with the high school's aerospace class.

Several students displayed a rocket at the Education Fair in Missoula this year. The display generated a great deal of interest as well as incredulity. But there is little doubt about the credentials of the "rocket kids" and their program's success. In 1984 the Whitefish class was invited to present a paper on aerospace research to the International Aeronautics Federation in Lausanne, Switzerland. The only other U.S. students to attend the conference were college-age youth from MIT.

Although Dr. Key left Whitefish this summer to take a position in Adak, Alaska, hopes are high for the continuation of the program. "The program is intact, and the instructors are lined up for the school year," said Jerry Mulhauser. "We need the approval of the new Whitefish superintendent once he or she is selected."

Meanwhile, it is not likely that the students and their advisors will quickly forget the Big Sag rocket launches. In the words of Chuck Piper, who sent a congratulatory letter to the Whitefish group, "It was the best launch I have ever attended."



Working in the rocket assembly area are (left to right, facing camera) George James, Tom Van Aken, Shawn Peretto and other students.



Left to right: Jerry Mulhauser, Central Junior High School, Whitefish, faculty advisor; Chuck Piper of the Rocket Research Institute Inc.; Sid Frederickson, Glacier Firebird Squadron, Montana Civil Air Patrol; and Whitefish High School students Mike Harwood, Tom Van Aken and Shawn Peretto. The group is working in the rocket assembly area, which is cordoned off for safety.

**Photos courtesy of
Phillips County News**

INCHES ROCKETS



(left to right, facing camera.) George James, who brought special cargo for one of the rockets, and Tim and other students



Rocket launched from "Big Sag," Montana. It carried a special packet of mail which later went to the Smithsonian Institute.



Research Institute Inc.; Sid, Tom Van Aken and Shawn



Student-made rockets await launching in the assembly area. Some are military surplus missile housings adapted as rockets.

RESOURCE NOTES

Resource Notes, by staff specialists at the Office of Public Instruction, give Montana educators a variety of useful information and access to important resources in specific subject areas. If you have any questions about what you read here or simply need assistance, call OPI (1-800-332-3402).

PUPIL TRANSPORTATION

Montanans Attend Missouri Conference

The 10th National Conference on School Transportation was held last May in Warrensburg, Missouri. Montana had six delegates: Robert Beach, Beach Transportation, Missoula; Gary Rose, Kalispell; Alex Ferguson, Cascade; Rod Johnson, Great Falls; and Bob Stockton and Terry Brown from the Office of Public Instruction.

Minimum Standards for School Buses

Board of Public Education policies state that our school bus standards will meet or exceed national minimum standards. In the next few months, we will work with the board and members of the State Advisory Council for Public Transportation to upgrade our standards.

The major change ahead is the addition of "stop arms" on our buses. Stop arms will undoubtedly be required equipment in the future, so you may wish to add them to your specs if you order new school buses.

If you need more information, call Terry Brown at OPI.

1985 Conference

The dust has settled on the Montana Association for Pupil Transportation Conference in Kalispell in June. It was one of our most successful conferences to date, with over 150 people attending, plus exhibitors. If you missed it this year, make plans to attend the 1986 conference in Great Falls, June 26-27.

Bright Idea

Who's the best kid on the bus? West Chester, Pennsylvania, school bus drivers are making every effort to find out. Each driver was given note pads and this information:

School Bus Driver's Survival Tip
from the
West Chester Area School District

Tired of telling kids to behave? Try "catching" them when they do—and let them know you noticed.

Quickly jot on this "Safe Bus—That's Us!" note what they did right, sign your name, and hand it to them.

You can be sure Mother, Dad and teacher will see it—and they'll think the kid's great, you're great and you drive the safest bus around.

Hand them out generously!

Prepared by the West Chester Area School District Transportation and Communications Offices

The "Safe Bus—That's Us" handouts let students know that they had been recognized for good behavior on the bus. Last year, the West Chester transportation department recognized only the discipline problem riders. "Our discipline code is strict and maintained through school principals. This plan was designed because all attention was on discipline and none on the good be-

havior. Together we created an eye-catching phrase and an appropriate drawing."

"The feedback on the approach has been rewarding," they said. "Each time we hear about it, it makes us feel good."

The handouts said, "Safe Bus—That's Us! Best kid on the bus!" with a small graphic.

—Terry Brown

Pupil Transportation Specialist

GUIDANCE

Drug and Alcohol Conference

The Great Falls Community CORE Team and the Office of Public Instruction are cosponsoring a conference on prevention strategies for adolescent drug abuse. Speakers at the conference will represent school, community, state agencies, drug counselors and regional drug information centers. The conference will be held October 3-4 in Great Falls at the Rainbow Hotel.

Contact Judy Birch at OPI for information.

—Judy Birch

Guidance Specialist

MUSIC/ARTS EDUCATION

Child Art—The Best PR

State Superintendent of Public Instruction Ed Argenbright was so impressed with the student artwork displayed at the Capitol Rotunda during the statewide and Helena exhibits last spring, he said it was some of the best "PR" we've ever had! Congratulations to all students, teachers, parents and community members who helped.

Children's art is an excellent PR idea for your own school and/or community display areas (libraries, banks, shopping malls, etc.). Displays of creative artwork speak of the life-giving quality of children's imaginations instead of sterile commercial art.



5 Minutes for the Arts

Instead of a boring signal between classes (buzzer or bell), why not have *five minutes for the arts*? Imagine Mozart's "La ci darem la mano" or variations on "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" or the "Minute Waltz." Music lifts up the spirits, inspires enterprising students to identify the music, encourages music classes to discover the composer. It would motivate history classes to explore the period during which the composer wrote, suggest a composer for the

next month's "Mystery Composer," research all of the arts of the era and inspire endless other possibilities.

Please send your ideas for "5 Minutes for the Arts" throughout the year to Janet Athwal at OPI.

SAFIRE Project

Project SAFIRE (Suitcase Art for Isolated Rural Education) was funded by the Chief State School Officers' Art and the Schools Program. We hope to create more traveling art curricula for your use, especially in rural areas. Please note, however, the regular suitcase art program will be available only after October 1, if you are interested.

—Janet Athwal

Music/Arts Education Specialist

MATHEMATICS

EMME Project

The Excellence for Montana Mathematics Education (EMME) project, funded by a National Science Foundation grant to the Montana Council of Teachers of Mathematics (MCTM) and the Office of Public Instruction, will begin recruiting participants in October.

The three-year project will further develop the mathematics background and abilities of selected teachers K-8 with three or more years of teaching experience, an interest in teaching mathematics and the desire to become regional mathematics leaders.

Teachers will attend two six-week summer institutes at the University of Montana and/or Montana State University. A stipend and expenses will be covered. After the summer institutes, participants will present inservice workshops for teachers in their own school or district and in other districts in their region. Stipends, expense coverage, materials and assistance from university staff involved in EMME will be available to workshop presenters.

School districts will be looking for quality inservice programs to meet a Board of Public Education requirement that they give staff three days for professional development. Quality inservice programs also will be at a premium as funds are made available to schools through the federal math/science program. EMME leaders will be a valuable source for workshops.

Brochures with information on the project will be available in September. For additional information or an application, contact Dan Dolan at OPI.

IMPACT Project

In another cooperative effort, MCTM, OPI and mathematics departments at the University of Montana and Montana State University submitted a proposal to NSF to fund "Integrating Mathematics Programs and Computer Technology," the IMPACT project. The grant would provide Montana with \$423,000 to train mathematics teachers grades 7-12 as regional mathematics/computer leaders who would then offer local and regional inservice on how to integrate the computer as an instructional tool in the mathematics curriculum.

Institutes at the University of Montana and MSU would begin in 1986 with par-

ticipants attending a six-week session one summer and returning for a three-week session the following year. Stipends, expense coverage and graduate credit would be available. The training institutes would upgrade teachers' abilities in mathematics, content and methodology, with specific emphasis on new topics such as discrete mathematics (probability and statistics).

Lyle Anderson, MSU, and Richard Billstein, University of Montana, project codirectors, national consultants in mathematics and computer education, winners of Presidential Awards in Mathematics Teaching and members of the Governor's Advisory Council on Science and Technology would join the instructional staff.

IMPACT will focus on the integration of the computer as a regular tool for instruction in mathematics. Participants will evaluate and select a "core set" of computer software—4-5 programs for each math course taught in grades 7-12—for use during the school year, at inservice workshops and eventually for use by all teachers throughout the state.

Notification of funding should be received by Christmas. If MCTM is successful, information on the IMPACT Project will be sent to schools in early January.

Presidential Awards

Next month a mathematics teacher from Montana will travel to Washington, D.C. to receive a Presidential Award in Excellence in Mathematics Teaching.

MCTM reviewed 13 applications from outstanding mathematics and computer science teachers and chose three finalists for this prestigious award: Bill Chalgren, Libby High School; Sue Mueller, Billings Central Catholic High School; and Barry Pollington, Highwood High School.

These teachers have a total of 58 years of teaching experience and have taught all of the mathematics and computer science courses in grades 7-12, local and regional inservice classes, and/or college-level classes in both mathematics and computer education. Each has been a leader in state mathematics or computer education professional organizations.

The National Science Foundation, which funds and directs the project, will select one award recipient from each state. Winners will be notified in September.

—Dan Dolan

Mathematics/Computer Education Specialist

COMPUTER EDUCATION

Montana Super Computer Student

Julie Aldegarie of Hellgate High School, Missoula, was Montana's representative to the Super Computer Institute for high school students, held in August at the Magnetic Fusion Energy Computer Center, Lawrence National Laboratory, in Livermore, California.

Twelve Montana junior and senior high school students submitted applications to attend this summer program. Applicants were required to meet stringent academic qualifications and have a working knowledge of computers and achievements beyond the usual academic pursuits.

RESOURCE NOTES

Gerald Gottfried of St. Ignatius High School, program alternate, and Julie are both high school juniors. Selection for the institute is a real tribute to these outstanding students.

—Dan Dolan
Mathematics/Computer Education
Specialist

TRAFFIC EDUCATION

Responsibilities and Opportunities for Traffic Education

Traffic education has experienced both valleys and peaks in recent years. The high positives remain. People *want* traffic education. Support from insurance companies continues, and schools are ideally positioned to fulfill evolving public needs. These needs create continuing responsibilities and opportunities for the driver education community. Consider these examples:

Parent Involvement—Parents want opportunities to learn about and influence what goes on in schools. They want to share in their children's instruction. Driver education is unique in the opportunities it offers.

Parent/Child Relationships—Parents are asking for help in dealing with their youngsters about car use and all that it implies.

Provisional Licenses—The logic of conditional or restricted licensing of new drivers—and young ones in particular—opens new responsibilities and opportunities for driver education.

Safety Belt Use—No other single, practical measure in highway safety offers a more realistic possibility of reducing deaths and injuries.

Alcohol Awareness Education—Drunk driving is the nation's most serious highway safety problem. For the long term, education holds the greatest hope for improvement.

Car Care—Vehicle maintenance takes on new meaning as basic care and routine checks are neglected. As car care awareness decreases among owners, driver education inherits new responsibilities and opportunities.

Small Car Safety—Concentrated efforts to adjust curriculum and teaching to address small car/large vehicle implications can no longer be postponed.

Socioeconomic Benefits—Traffic education contributes significantly to students' well-being and adjustment to work and society. People should know this, and *it's our job to tell them*.

Changing Populations—New drivers from other lands and cultures find it difficult to blend into our complex highway system. In the next decade, more persons age 65 and over will create special training, testing and monitoring needs. By the end of the decade, another wave of new, young drivers will stretch instructional needs beyond the capacity of a shrinking driver education faculty.

Youth Activities—Secondary school youth have the energy, desire and ability to perform useful and important public service efforts. Their activity can cement the traffic education/citizen relationship. To help them realize their potential, a vehicle is in place: the National Student Safety Program. Unfortunately, it has been grossly neglected by

driver educators.

Other societal needs and benefits could probably be added. But let's start with these. The issues are with us and they won't go away. *They are important.*

On the selfish side, if we have the foresight and fortitude to face up to the issues, to move on them, to let our positions be known and to work vigorously towards solutions, we'll not only serve society's needs, we'll also gain positive visibility and elevate driver education and our profession. Who wouldn't welcome that?

1985 Legislation

The following bills passed the 1985 Legislature: SB3—drinking age legislation, SB142—increase motorist fees to fund district courts; HJR22—interim study on drinking age; HB 870—increase motorist fees to fund block grant program; and HB 283, 291, 292—increase driver license fees to upgrade Montana Highway Patrol retirement program.

Looking for Computer Software?

This software may be of interest to you: **Make It Click** (seatbelts)—compatible with Apple II; \$44.25 from Egghead Software, 10636 Main St., #206, Bellevue, WA 98004. Also, **Limit: A Drinking and Driving Simulation** (same as *Kegger and Cocktail Party*)—compatible with Apple; \$50 from Michael Reberry, 916 3rd Street SE, Ankeny, IA 50021.

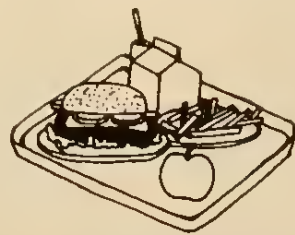
Just A Reminder!

Traffic education program applications for the 1985-86 school year must be into OPI and approved before the program begins. Your credentials as a teacher of traffic education should be current. If you have questions, contact Curt Hahn.

Best wishes for a productive school year!

—Curt Hahn
Traffic Education Specialist

FOOD SERVICE



National School Lunch Week 1985

One of America's most revered institutions—the school lunch program—will be celebrated during National School Lunch Week, October 13-19.

During National School Lunch Week, school food service personnel across the country will serve a variety of meals designed to highlight the American School Food Service Association's (ASFS) five-year theme, "School Lunch: America's Number One Energy Source."

In 1985, the theme's fourth year, ASFS is making a "Salute to Freedom" with a variety of tasty, nutritious meals. Four dif-

OPI SPECIALISTS MAY BE REACHED ON THE HOT LINE

1-800-332-3402

ferent regional meals will be served during the week, and on the fifth day, schools will serve local favorites.

This year, Montana schools are encouraged to serve: Monday, Western Chili; Tuesday, Midwest Burger Deluxe; Wednesday, Southern Fried Chicken; Thursday, Roast Turkey Sandwich; and Friday, a school's favorite choice.

Initiated in 1946, the National School Lunch Program has made it possible for schools throughout the nation to serve wholesome, nutritious, low-cost lunches to students every school day. These meals will be enjoyed by more than 23 million children each day during National School Lunch Week.

School lunch managers may obtain additional information by contacting the Division of School Food Services at OPI (1-800-332-3402).

—H. Brisbin Skiles
School Food Services Director

NUTRITION EDUCATION

Nutrition Teacher Seminars

This fall, nutrition education teacher seminars in various parts of the state will give instruction in nine specific food/nutrition topics. For attending a three-day seminar of three hours per day, a participant can receive one undergraduate credit. Instruction covers current nutrition information, concepts, student activities and resources.

The seminar will address the following topics: fast foods; eating disorders (compulsive eaters, anorexia, bulimia); food frauds; weight loss—fact or fiction; computer programs for nutrition education; nutrition and health concerns (fiber, heart disease, sodium); nutrition and sports; K-3 food/nutrition activities; and other pertinent topics requested by teachers.

A flyer with additional information will be mailed to each school, or contact Ann Ferguson, Nutrition Education Specialist, or Jane Dubitzky, School Food Service Specialist, at OPI (1-800-332-3402).

—Ann Ferguson
Nutrition Education Specialist

LIBRARY MEDIA

School Library Media News

The annual Montana Library Association retreats will be October 4-5, Fort Peck Hotel, Fort Peck; October 11-12, Buck's T-4, Big Sky; October 17-18, Grouse Mountain Lodge, Whitefish. The Fort Peck and Big Sky retreats will begin Friday evening and end Saturday afternoon. The Whitefish retreat is scheduled for Thursday afternoon and Fri-

day. For further information, contact Sheila Cates at OPI.

The Office of Public Instruction is co-operating with the U.S. Department of Education's National Center for Education Statistics on a national survey of public and private school library media centers. The survey will collect updated information on staff, expenditures, collections and services. Seventy-five Montana schools will be included in the sample, ranging in size from one-teacher rural schools to AA high schools.

In late April schools received a mailing describing the EBE video project, a co-operative project of OPI and Encyclopaedia Britannica. The project gives schools an opportunity to acquire inexpensive curriculum resources in the video format. Included in the mailing was a licensing agreement and catalog of titles. If you need more information, contact Sheila Cates.

Every school district in the state has received at least one paper copy of the *OPI Audiovisual Library Catalog* and some have also received a microfiche copy. Schools may acquire extra copies of the catalog at \$6 each or a microfiche copy at no charge by contacting Jim Meier, AV Library Supervisor, 1-800-332-3402 or directly at 444-3170. The catalog lists rental videotapes, videodiscs and 16mm films.

An A+ goes to those school librarians who took time out from their summer schedule to attend the Collection Development workshops sponsored by the Montana State Library. Collection development is a topic of extreme importance to all Montana libraries regardless of type, especially as we seek to strengthen our resources for our various publics. The workshop information may be available on videocassette. If interested, contact Sheila Cates.

Earth Station OPI

OPI's Audiovisual Library is pleased to announce the installation of a satellite downlink at the library. It will primarily be used to tape programs for redistribution to schools, working within copyright laws and guidelines. It will also allow OPI to participate in national teleconferences broadcast via satellite. For more information about a satellite downlink or programs being disseminated via satellite, contact Sheila Cates or Jim Meier at OPI.

—Sheila Cates
Library Media Specialist



UNCLASSIFIEDS

Unclassifieds is a "bulletin board" of resources, events and announcements of interest to educators. However, the naming of a service or product does not mean a recommendation or endorsement by the Office of Public Instruction.

CONFERENCES

RURAL SCHOOLS CONFERENCE

The 1985 Rural Education Association Conference, "Rural Schools: A Place to Grow," will be held October 13-15 in Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Teachers, administrators, regional and state education agency staff, higher education personnel, board members, legislators, parents and others interested in rural education are encouraged to attend. Conference topics range from establishing an educational foundation and the loneliness of a rural school administrator, to interactive TV networks on rural youth problems and staff development.

For more information, contact Dwight Bode, Grant Wood Area Education Agency, 4401 6th St., Cedar Rapids, IA 52402.

STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S CONFERENCE

The State Superintendent's Conference, an annual gathering of Montana school administrators and teachers, will be held at the Colonial Inn in Helena, September 23.

The conference will feature practical presentations and keynote speakers.

For more information, contact the Office of Public Instruction (1-800-332-3402).

SERVICES

ADVICE ON CUTTING ENERGY COSTS

Schools can cut 15-30 percent from their total energy costs, according to Commercial Energy Systems (CES), a private, Houston-based company specializing in institutional energy systems.

CES's energy consultation services are available to schools around the country through the American Association of School Administrators. Working through regional service centers, CES offers schools a variety of means to make their facilities more energy efficient. Consultation, data collection, equipment and installation, etc., are arranged on a payback basis.

For more information, write: CES, 9754 Whithorn, Houston, TX 77095.

STUDENT MAPS

Don Johnston of Rocky Mountain Maps would like schools to know that he has student desk maps appropriate for grades 5-7 social studies. The maps are three in a series.

Contact Rocky Mountain Maps, PO Box 2306, Great Falls, MT 59403 (727-2400).

CURRICULUM

ENERGY ANT LEADS ACTIVITIES

Energy Ant is a friendly character in a new coloring book called, *Energy Activities*

With *Energy Ant*, a conservation education resource for students K-4. The book is published by the U.S. Department of Energy and distributed by the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation.

Through word and card games, puzzles, riddles and cutouts, students use color, read and learn about energy. The book can be used as an instructional tool for the entire class or as part of an energy conservation unit in science or social studies.

Classroom quantities are available free from the Energy Division, Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, 32 S. Ewing, Helena, MT 59620 (444-6696).

VIDEO EXPLAINS LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

The Montana Legislative Council has released *Making a Difference*, a 17-minute video cassette explaining Montana's legislative process. Filmed during the 1985 legislative session, the video follows the necessary steps in how an idea can become a law.

Making a Difference follows a group of concerned citizens as they meet with legislators and others. Its concise, simple narrative takes the citizen's point of view, making the sometimes complicated legislative process more accessible and easy to understand.

The video is appropriate for secondary and postsecondary classes, adult education, study groups, churches, service clubs or anyone interested in how the laws of this state are made.

It is available in VHS, Beta or 1/4-inch formats for \$50 per copy from the Montana Legislative Council, Room 138, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620 (444-3064).

PUBLICATIONS

BUSINESS/EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS

A new publication from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce is designed to boost business involvement in education reform. *Business and Education: Partners for the Future* highlights the need for community and state business leaders to become involved in pro-

TOLL FREE EDUCATION HOT LINE:



1-800-332-3402

grams that address the specific needs of individual school systems. It presents a pragmatic approach to assessing those needs. Information on successful business/education partnerships is included, and appendices give the names of several organizations interested in improving education.

Single copies of the book, Chamber Code #6784, are available postpaid for \$15. Order from: U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 1615 H Street NW, Washington, DC 20062. Attn: Robert Martin.

BOOKS TAILORED FOR SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

The Illinois Association of School Boards publishes several books of use to school administrators and board members. All take a practical, realistic approach to school management.

School maintenance, lobbying techniques, successful board meetings, effective management techniques, collective bargaining, employee benefits, public relations, communication and many other topics are covered.

For a 1985 publications catalog with descriptions, prices and ordering information, write the Illinois Association of School Boards, 1209 S. Fifth St., Springfield, IL 62703.

ALCOHOL EDUCATION RESOURCE

New for this fall is *Preventing Alcohol Problems Through A Student Assistance Program*, aimed at students who may be at especially high risk for developing alcohol or drug problems.

The book tells administrators, teachers, counselors, parents, community leaders and others how to implement a school-based

GOOD BOOKS, GOOD TIMES!



Book Week • November 11-17, 1985

Poster by Marc Brown for 1985 National Children's Book Week, sponsored by the Children's Book Council, Inc. For a brochure on Book Week materials, ordering and prices, send SASE #10 envelope to CBC, 67 Irving Place, New York, NY 10003.

KIDS! CHRISTMAS CARD CONTEST



State Superintendent of Public Instruction Ed Argenbright invites your students to submit a drawing for the Office of Public Instruction's Christmas card contest. Mr. Argenbright will use the winning drawing for OPI's Christmas card this year, and it will be reprinted in December's *Montana Schools*.

Students K-6, through their teachers, may send an entry. The line drawing should be on white paper (8 1/2 x 11 or 8 1/2 x 14) in ink, crayon or marker—**black only**. Shaded areas, pencil or color do not reproduce well.

Include the student's name and grade, teacher's name, school and address. Specify if you want the drawing returned. **Send by October 30 to:**

Ed Argenbright, Superintendent
Office of Public Instruction
State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620

prevention program to reach these high risk students.

Single copies are free from the National Clearinghouse for Alcohol Information, PO Box 2345, Rockville, MD 20852. Multiple orders may be made at \$4.50 per copy from the Superintendent of Documents, US Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402 (specify stock #017-024-01221-1).

COMIC PROMOTES COMPUTERS AND DRUG EDUCATION

The Tandy Computer Whiz Kids star in the Radio Shack Educational Comic Program's fall issue, *The Computers That Said No To Drugs*. The educational comic book blends the excitement of an adventure story with the use of computers and education about the hazards of drug abuse.

The books are free. Order a classroom packet of 50 books from: Radio Shack Educational Comic Book Program, 300 One Tandy Center, Fort Worth, TX 76102. Please send your request on school letterhead.

NATURE PUBLICATION FOR ACTIVE LEARNING

NatureScope is a new publication from the National Wildlife Federation, the people who bring you *Ranger Rick*. It is full of games, stories, songs, poems, craft projects, pages that may be photocopied, a mini-course on the issue's feature subject and other motivational activities for students grades K-6.

NatureScope comes in a school-year subscription of five bimonthly issues for \$18. Write: NatureScope, National Wildlife Federation, 1412 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036.

WORKSHOPS

JTPA AND HANDICAPPED STUDENTS

Six workshops on "Helping Handicapped Students Become a Part of the Job Training Partnership Act" (JTPA) will be held around the country this fall. The workshops are part of a project funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services.

Western locations and dates are: Las Vegas, October 9; San Jose, California, January 16-17.

Registration must be made well in advance. Write: Vocational Studies Center, 964 Educational Sciences Building, 1205 W. Johnson St., Madison, WI 53706 (608) 263-4151.

SPECIAL ED RESOURCE

SPECIAL ED TECHNOLOGY HOT LINE

Information on technological advances and applications in special education is available through the Council for Exceptional Children's Center for Special Education Technology.

Voice-response technology, slow-scan TV, audioconferencing, assistive devices, microcomputers and videodiscs are examples of the technological advances monitored by the center.

The center's toll free hot line (1-800-345-TECH) is open Monday-Friday, 1-6 p.m. Eastern time.



BRIGHT IDEAS

With the new school year, Montana Schools introduces a new regular feature. Bright Ideas is a guest column for and by Montana teachers, administrators and education specialists. It presents a teaching philosophy, views on education issues and

trends or a specific idea for the classroom that other teachers can easily use.

We invite all Montana educators to make this column an exciting source of ideas and exchange. Information on submitting material is found below.

THE YEAR OF THE TEACHER

Terry L. Wiedmer

Education in America is unique. No other nation serves so large or varied a student population as does this country: more young people attend school, graduate from high school and matriculate to postsecondary institutions. America's economic strength and national defense are predicated on its dominance in education and technology. Public schools have been and remain the backbone of our democracy.

Education does not begin in Washington, D.C., nor does it lie between the pages of a text. Rather, it is the sum of its parts. Education is the joint responsibility of parents, teachers, administrators, community and government working harmoniously for the good of students. No single building block will develop a foundation for future learning; it requires the fusion of a supportive environment, a diverse curriculum and competent teachers.

Teaching is a profession built on change. The subject matter changes, the students change and so, too, teachers change. Teachers possess the power to nudge, fan sparks, ask troubling questions, praise an attempted answer, condemn hiding from the truth, suggest books and point out a pathway. Successful teachers are open to advice and counsel. They see problems as possibilities, know the value of good plans and do not quit in spite of opposition. Rather than accept minimum requirements, they must challenge all students, yet have maximum expectations for each student.

Outstanding educators possess a genuine love of children, the ability to encourage positive self-images and the skills to promote an atmosphere of mutual trust and respect between teacher and students. A well-developed knowledge base, enthusiasm and the ability to convey it to students, a sense of humor and being able to laugh at but learn from one's own mistakes are distinguishing attributes of superior teachers.

Successful teachers have high expectations and do not overpraise students' work, even very good work. They ask learners to take chances that sometimes result in failure. They support and encourage students rather than punish them. They create an atmosphere that is supportive and conducive to speaking frankly, putting students at ease and free to discuss and discover.

Good teachers experiment to find techniques that work with their particular students and subjects. In addition, they possess personal charisma, a sound knowledge base and professional skills that incorporate insight and pedagogy.

The role of the principal in improving teaching quality and school effectiveness is central, for teachers consider school administrators to be the most important help—or the greatest hindrance—to effective teaching. Administrators can make a school's human and material resources productive and translate potential into reality. In a humane climate where individual worth and dignity are preserved and fostered, they make things happen by working with and through other people. They must seek to maintain and expand the diverse skills, effectiveness and productivity of all individuals within the school.

Teachers and administrators must improve the image and prestige of America's educational enterprise. Excellence is an evaluative, qualitative, powerful term. When applied to education, it is dependent upon the supremacy of the teachers, administrators and students. Achieving this status is not just for the elite, but equal opportunity and appropriate challenges should be made available to all, considering individual uniqueness.

Each of us must expand our personal horizons and stretch beyond institutional and special interests to realize our collective potential. Our reward comes in finding successful responses for specific challenges that benefit not only the educational community, but those we serve: students, parents and society as a whole.

Dr. Terry Wiedmer is Principal at Prescott Elementary in Missoula and Computer Education Coordinator for Missoula School District 1.

Submit your teaching philosophy, point of view or a classroom idea for possible publication in Montana Schools. Maximum 250 words, preferably typed, double spaced. Include name, school, position, address. Deadlines are 6 weeks before the first of September, December, February or May. Send to: Montana Schools, Office of Public Instruction, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620.



Videos and Microscopes at Ed Fair

Whitehall High School librarian, Al Anderson (left), explains "Video Taping Through Microscopes" to former Missoula County Superintendent of Schools, Mike Bowman, and Sheila Cates, Library Media Specialist at the Office of Public Instruction. Anderson shared his project with visitors to the Education Fair in Missoula last spring. Thirty-six projects were displayed by schools, education organizations and OPI.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER—DECEMBER 1985

The following are professional enrichment opportunities of interest to school personnel. For information about the calendar or inclusion of items, call OPI (1-800-332-3402). For information about specific listings below, address inquiries to the contact person noted.

Units of the Montana University System and other colleges offer professional training courses through their offices of continuing education. Contact the specific college or university for information.

Each item in the calendar is in the following order: date, type of event, title, location, duration (in parentheses), contact person, telephone number. In some cases, preregistration may be required. The calendar is current as of August 15, 1985.

SEPTEMBER

- Courses: *Workshops for School Food Managers/Personnel*, (1 day); Whitefish 9/5, Shelby 9/10, Havre 9/11, Great Falls 9/12, Malta 9/17, Wolf Point 9/18, Glendive 9/19, Lewistown 10/1, Laurel 10/2, Bozeman 10/3, Brice Skiles, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.
- 18 Conference: *1 Care About Quality Education—AASA Legislative Conference*, Arlington, VA (3 days); AASA, 703-528-0700.
- 19 Conference: *Junior Great Books Basic Leader Training Course*, Laurel (2 days); Mary Rita Neitz, 628-6759.
- 23 Conference: *State Superintendent's Conference*, Helena (1 day); Victoria Braaten, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.

- 25 Workshop: *ECIA Chapter 1 Fall Workshop*, Big Sky (2 days); Judy Johnson, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.

OCTOBER

- 3 Conference: *Drug and Alcohol Abuse Prevention*, Great Falls (2 days); Judy Birch, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.
- 4 Conference: *MT Library Assoc. Eastern Retreat*, Fort Peck (2 days); Carol Brett, 543-3989.
- 11 Conference: *MT Library Assoc. Central Retreat*, Big Sky (2 days); Carol Brett, 543-3989.
- 16 Conference: *MT Vocational Association*, Billings (3 days); Redina Berscheid, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.
- 16 Conference: *MT Assoc. of Teachers of English Language Arts/MT Reading Council*, Billings (2 days); Beverly Chin, U.M., 243-2463.
- 17 Conference: *MT Music Educators Assoc.*, Bozeman (2 days); Janet Athwal, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.
- 17 Conference: *MT Council of Teachers of Mathematics*, Missoula (2 days); Dan Dolan, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.
- 17 Conference: *MT Assoc. for Counseling & Development*, Butte (2 days); Judy Birch, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.
- 17 Conference: *MT Art Education Assoc.*, Helena (2 days); Janet Athwal, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.

- 17 Conference: *MT Assoc. of Language Teachers*, Helena (2 days); Helena, Pat Wyss, 587-0149.

- 17 Conference: *Curriculum Development for Gifted/Talented Beginning Intermediate*, Minneapolis (2 days); Nancy Lukenbill, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.

- 18 Conference: *MT Library Assoc. Western Retreat*, Whitefish (2 days); Carol Brett, 543-3989.

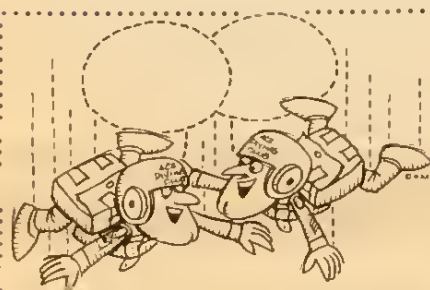
- 27 Conference: *DECA, VICA, FHA, OEA Fall Leadership Conference*, Great Falls (3 days); Redina Berscheid, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.

NOVEMBER

- 4 Conference: *Natl. Assoc. for Gifted Children*, Denver (5 days); Nancy Lukenbill, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.
- 14 Conference: *DECA Western Region Leadership Conference*, Cheyenne, WY (3 days); Redina Berscheid, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.
- 14 Conference: *Strategies to Improve Productive Thinking of the Gifted/Talented*, Little Rock, AR (2 days); Nancy Lukenbill, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.

DECEMBER

- 14 Meeting: *State Vocational Activities, Officer Planning Meeting*, Helena (1 day); Redina Berscheid, OPI, 1-800-332-3402.



AIR YOUR VIEWS!

Montana Schools, the quarterly newsletter of the Office of Public Instruction, is in its 32nd year of publication. It shares with state educators information on programs, methods, trends and issues in education, the policies and procedures of OPI and laws and regulations that affect education. How well are we doing? What do you—our readers—have to say about *Montana Schools*? Please take the time to fill out this brief reader survey. We'll take your comments to heart and use them to improve this newsletter. You needn't include your name; all comments will remain anonymous.

You are a

- ☐ Teacher K-8 ☐ Administrator
☐ Teacher 9-12 ☐ Other _____

1. What sections of *Montana Schools* do you read and how often?

Section	Always	Most of the Time	Seldom	Never
Features	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
News Briefs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resource Notes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unclassifieds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Training Calendar	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. How would you rate the quality of these sections on a scale of 1-5, with 5 as "excellent"?

Features	Unclassifieds	Resource Notes
News Briefs	Training Calendar	

3. What do you like about *Montana Schools*?

4. What do you dislike about *Montana Schools*?

5. What would you like to see changed?

6. Subjects you would like to see *Montana Schools* cover in the coming months

7. Other comments (use additional sheet if necessary)

Please return to: Public Information, Office of Public Instruction, State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620.

MONTANA SCHOOLS

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